received after 31.3.1982) if sufficient grounds for condonation of delay exist they are disposed off on merits in consultation with the State Government.

(d) (i) Number of cases decided favourably i.e. sanctioned upto 30.6.1991:

Andhra Pradesh	—	10,148.
Tamil Nadu	—	3.985.

(This does not include Ex-I.N.A. Cases)

(ii) Number of cases rejected: No separate record is maintained for rejected cases.

Grievances of Assam Rifles

1390. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. ?.424 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th August, 1990 and state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government to redress the grievances of Jawans of Assam Rifles;

(b) whether it is a fact that 9000 jawans had approached the Guwahati High Court by way of a Writ Petition in view of Administration's refusal to settle the demands pertaining to implementation of fourth CPC's recommendations;

(c) whether the Jawans' action of going to Court was construed as an act of indiscipline and a number of Jawans were punished by various means including dismissals; and

(d) whether their cases would be reviewed on humanitarian grounds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) The various grievances of the Assam Rifles personnel related to parity of Assam Rifles with other Central Police Organisations in matters of pay and allowances, service conditions, rank structure and appointments. The Assam Rifles personnel have already been granted the parity in pay and allowances as applicable in the case of other Central Police Organisations. It has not been possible to accept the other demands of the Assam Rifles personnel, in view of the necessity for army supervision and control in matters of operations in the North-Eastern region under the prevailing conditions in that region.

<b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir. The guilty jawans were given punishments by the competent authorities for their active participation in the agitation which has been construed as an act of gross indiscipline in a uniformed force like the Assam Rifles. Besides these jawans have filed writ petitions in various courts of law challenging the punishments awarded to them by their disciplinary authorities. Thus the matter is now *sub judice.*

Atrocities against women

1391. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of atrocities against women, during the last five years till May, 1991 State-wise;

(b) the details of molestation, rape and dowry deaths during the last five years. State-wise;

(c) the action taken against perpetrators of crimes against women, State-wise; and

(d) the number of cases of acquittal of persons involved in crimes against women, State wise, during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a)

and (b) Available information on the cases recorded under molestation, rape and dowry deaths during the years 1986 to 1991 is enclosed. *[See* Appendix CLIX, Annexure No. 38]

(c) and (d) The registration, investigation and prosecution of crimes, including crime against women, is the responsibility of the State Governments. **The** figures in respect of cases of acquittal of persons involved in crimes against women are not collected and compiled by the Central agencies.

Expert opinion on Ramjanam Bhoomi Temple

1392. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to **state;**

(a) whether Government have obtained by expert opinion from any Archaeo-logist/Archaeological Institution on **the** dispute over the existence of Ramjanam Bhoomi temple in Ayodhya prior to **the** construction of the Babri Masjid;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that letters have been sent to the Ministry of Human Resource Development asking not to make Archaeological material regarding Ayodhya dispute available to professional historians, and Archaeologists for their examination; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB); (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government have not written any such letter to the Archaeological Survey of India.

Joint Commission of India and Sri Lanka

1393. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Sri Lanka have agreed to set up a Joint Commission at the Foreign Ministers' level to further enhance and strengthen bilateral ties; and

(b) if so, by when an Agreement in this regard is likely to be signed and what are the matters which are likely to be dealt with by the Joint Commission?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SO-LANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Tbe Agreement was signed on 29 July 1991 during the official visit of the Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka to India. The Joint Commission will incorporate two sub-Commissions **dealing** respectively with trade, finance and investment and with social, cultural and educational matters.

Traffic signal lights in the capital

1394. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governmenl are aware that M/s. Keltron, in connivance with Delhi Traffic police, has been indiscrimi nately putting up traffic signal lights since 1990 on Ring Road, Outer Ring Road and the area between the two. in the Capital, thereby hampering the flow of traffic resulting in traffic congestion; and

(b) if so, what steps Government pro pose to take to do away with the un necessary and avoidable traffic signal lights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF **STATE** ! IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) and (b) Installation of traffic light signals